

FINAL MINUTES

Town of Westport Golf Advisory Committee Minutes August 7, 2017

The Golf Advisory Committee of the Town of Westport met in Town Hall, Room 309, on Monday August 7, 2017. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Fred Hunter at 7:30 pm.

Members present: Marie Gross, Jim Harman, Fred Hunter, Rich Raphael, Gary Solomon and Jane Daly. John Elhi was absent.

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the meeting on May 1, 2017 were reviewed and approved, unanimously, by the committee by a 6-0 vote.

2. Comments from the Public

Michael Fox of the Men's Association noted the increased population of geese on the course. He circulated a photo of dozens on geese on the course earlier in the day. He reports that upwards of 150 are present. He also noted the issue of the new course logo and the proliferation of several marks currently in use and varied reactions to each. Sean Doyle noted that a water valve in the practice area is currently leaking (and he notes has been for a while). He noted a disconnect in communications between Brightview and Parks and Rec on these kinds of issues.

3. Rounds Report

Chairman Hunter provided the summary of July and year to date rounds on the course. July's rounds are down slightly from last year. Year to date, the total rounds are down 4.9% versus 2016.

4. Bunker Project Update

Chairman Hunter gave an update on the project. Bids for the construction and renovation project were received by two companies. Both submitted budgets were 15-25% over the project approved budget. Thus changes were made to the plan and the Better Billy Bunker system was eliminated from the project. Conventional bunker liners will be used and a small number of bunkers may be grass instead of sand. The project construction phase could start in September.

5. Presidents' Reports

Topsy Siderowf of the LWGA reported an excellent member guest event recently as well as the club championship event. She also noted the lack of working water fountains on the course causing hardship during very warm days. As well, she noted the always full trash can on the 10th tee. Discussed was obtaining a larger can.

Ellen Ehli of the Ladies 9 hole League was not present.

Michael Fox of the LMGA reported their member guest event was successful as was the club championship. He also noted that the Association has purchased reflectors for the pins on the course to assist range finders.

6. Superintendent Report

Todd Salamone reported that weak irrigation coverage is affecting some of the green's collar and fairways. He intends to recalibrate the sprinkler heads to address this. Todd also addressed the geese situation and noted that solutions are very difficult to execute. He also noted that he plans to increase aeration in the fall and winter (weather permitting) to reduce a layer of plant material that is affecting saturation of water.

7. Golf Professional Report

Jon Janik noted that overall response on the course is good and he's getting compliments on his staff.

Jon briefly discussed some issues with the Chelsea reservation system. This discussion included all members of the committee and the public. Chairman Hunter agreed to review the software issues with Jen Fava of Parks and Rec.

A motion was made, by Chairman Hunter, to adjourn the meeting and passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 9:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Harman
Golf Advisory Committee